

The First Presbyterian Church on the Park

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



17 Park Street
Canton, New York 13617
Christy Dekay, Office Coordinator
Office@ChurchOnThePark.org
Hours Tuesday & Thursday 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Phone: (315) 386-2570
www.ChurchOnThePark.org
Rev. Michael Catanzaro, Pastor
RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org
Mornings M-W & By Appointment

THE PEOPLE GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC & THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Pat Mace, Greeting Elder

Please Stand And Greet Your Neighbors!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

The foolish say, 'there is no God.'

We come, trusting in Jesus, the face, the voice, the presence of the God who loves us.

The scoffers of our age ask, 'why do you seek after God?'

We come, in this time, because God's grace has spilled over in our lives.

The hopeless around us think, 'no one cares about me.'

We come, in this time, to this place, because Jesus has found us and brought us home.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION FOR THE INDWELLING OF THE SPIRIT

*SACRED MUSIC

GtG #773 *Heaven Shall Not Wait*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Although we believe we are experts at faithfulness, Holy God, we must confess we are unskilled workers at doing good for others. Too often, we turn a deaf ear to the cries of people we have judged to be fools. We easily scoff at those we believe have nothing to teach us or share with us.

How foolish, Searching God, how foolish we are! Forgive us, and restore us to your goodness. Then, send us forth to search for all who sit in the shadowed corners of our world, yearning for someone to come and find them, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, came to find us. Amen.

Silence is kept

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Our actions sometimes show we do not know God. Our words and lives show we do not understand God's hopes for us. But with utmost patience, God sets aside our foolishness, and fills us with mercy.

Mingled with faith and love, grace is poured into our sin-parched souls, giving us new life, restoring us as God's children. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

(Unison) GtG #581

*THE PEACE

(Response: **And also with you.**)

THE PEOPLE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS (The Voice)

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Eternal One (to Jeremiah): ²² My people are foolish.

They do not know Me at all.

They are reckless, senseless children.

They are clever and cunning when it comes to evil,

But inept and incapable of doing good.

Jeremia 4:11-12, 22-28



²³ I looked at the earth and saw that it was *again* formless and empty;

I looked at the heavens and saw no light.

²⁴ I looked at the mountains and saw them quaking;
all the hills, they shuddered.

²⁵ I looked around and *saw no hint of life*.

The people were gone. The birds had fled the sky.

²⁶ I looked at *what was once* a garden and saw a desert—

the rubble of its cities torn down right in front of the Eternal and His fierce anger.

²⁷ **Eternal One:** The whole land will lie in ruin,
but I will not completely destroy it.

²⁸ Because of this *devastation*,
the earth will mourn and the skies will darken—for I have spoken.

Once I have decided, I will not change My mind.

I will not turn back *from this*.

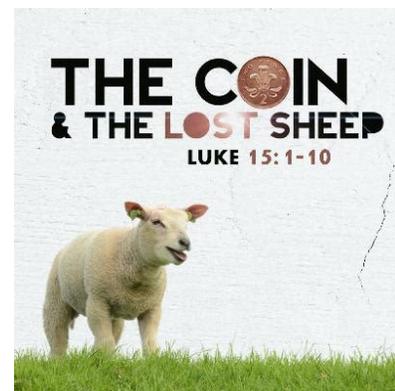
Luke 15: 1-10

15 Jesus became increasingly popular among *notorious* sinners—tax collectors and other social outcasts. **2** The Pharisees and religious scholars noticed this.

Pharisees and Religious Scholars: This man welcomes immoral people and enjoys their company over a meal!

Jesus (with another parable): **3-4** Wouldn't every single one of you, if you have 100 sheep and lose one, leave the 99 in their grazing lands and go out searching for the lost sheep until you find it? **5** When you find the lost sheep, wouldn't you hoist it up on your shoulders, feeling wonderful? **6** And when you go home, wouldn't you call together your friends and neighbors? Wouldn't you say,

“Come over and celebrate with me, because I've found my lost sheep”? **7** This is how it is in



heaven. They're happier over one sinner who changes his way of life than they are over 99 good and just people who don't need to change their ways of life.

8 Or imagine a woman who has 10 silver coins. She loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the whole house, and search diligently until that coin is found? **9** And when she finds it, doesn't she invite her friends and neighbors and say, "Celebrate with me! I've found that silver coin that I lost"? **10** Can't you understand? There is joy in the presence of all God's messengers over even one sinner who changes his way of life.

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Children Leave For Church School Afterwards.

SERMON

A Little Much

Rev. Mary Woodman

***SACRED MUSIC**

GtG #173 *A Woman and a Coin*

THE PEOPLE RESPOND TO THE WORD

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

(Wave to your neighbors, and those joining via the live-stream.)

OFFERING

(Offerings may be placed in the collection basket at the top of the stairs as you exit the sanctuary following the worship.)

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER, PRAYER OF DEDICATION & LORD'S PRAYER

Love, sacred mystery at the heart of all things, holy are you. May your domain spread out across the world. May all have what they need, today and all days. May we forgive ourselves for our failings and strive to do better. May we forgive others for their failings and invite them to do better, even as they forgive themselves and us. If we must face difficulties, may we do so with courage, humor, humility, and grace. If we must face evil, may we not be overcome with it but may we overcome evil with love. For love is the measure of all things and the hope of humanity, now and forever. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY**

(Unison, Inside Cover of the Hymnal.)

***SACRED MUSIC**

GtG #436 *God of Compassion in Mercy Befriend Us*

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

**Congregation standing; as each person desires.*

*Masks are welcome but not required, distance as you are comfortable.
Following the worship service everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall
for conversation and a light repast.*

PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

We remember in prayer Bev Findley, Barry Walch on the death of his sister Pam, the family of Shirley Norton, Ella Morter on the death of her companion Ron Sibbitts, Bob Fraser, Wanda Renick, Jerry Findley, Mark and Nancy Brown, Carolyn O'Connor, Bill and Karen Parker, Lew Shepard, Marilyn Coir, Christa Lyon, Nick Scelzi, Vern and Arvilla Aldous, Rich Denison, Joe and Mary Bean, the Basford/Rodee Family, Mark Holbrook (father of Josh), Colleen Grant, Janet Favro, and all who are ill in hospitals, nursing homes or at home; those serving our nation and their families who support them; parents raising children and children caring for parents.

Church School Director:
Office Coordinator:

Andrea Montgomery
Christy Dekay

**The password for our church wifi network is: Lakew00d4331a
Password for the Zoom fellowship call at 11:30 a.m. is 3862570**

AT OUR CHURCH THIS WEEK

- Sunday 9/14/25 - In-Person and Live-Stream Worship (10 a.m.)
 - Rev. Mike off; Rev. Mary Woodman to preach
 - Deacon's Meeting (11:15 a.m. Conference Room)
- Monday 9/15/25 - Newsletter Deadline
- Saturday 9/20/25 - - Peace Officer's Memorial Dedication (Park 10 a.m.)
 - Rummage Sale Setup (1230 p.m. Fellowship Hall)
- Sunday 9/21/25 - In-Person and Live-Stream Worship (10 a.m.)
 - Name Tag Sunday
 - Noisy Can Sunday
 - Baptism of Christopher and Alistair Melville

SO, WHAT HAPPENS
TO THE OTHER 99
SHEEP? HE CAN'T
JUST **LEAVE**
THEM ALL!



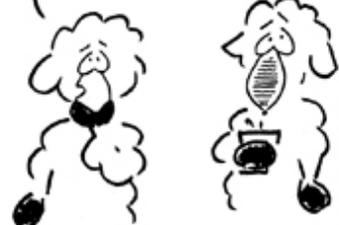
WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

IT'S A
PARABLE...

THAT DESCRIBES
JESUS' COMMITMENT
TO SINNERS.



MAYBE HE
DEPUTIZED
ONE OF THEM.



LUKE 15: 1-10

© wetzstein 10.09.07